

April 17, 2020

Dear Graham County Citizens,

Graham County met in emergency session on Friday, April 17, 2020 to take under consideration the measures they have implemented over the past three weeks to protect the residents (full and part time) during the COVID-19 crisis. The Board of Commissioners have taken several steps to follow guidance issued by the CDC and Executive Orders issued by Governor Cooper to encourage and promote active social distancing.

Graham County will begin easing travel restrictions in the County by easing restrictions over ingress and egress. Checkpoints and barriers to highways entering Graham County from Cherokee County, NC, Swain County, NC and from all points in Tennessee will be removed Sunday night, April 19, 2020 no later than 11:59 pm. Barriers on the Cherohala Skyway, Tatham Gap and Big Santeetlah will be removed no later than 7:00 AM on Monday, April 20, 2020.

All persons coming in and residing in the Graham County, shall continue to follow all safety measures of wearing PPE and limiting gatherings to ten (10) or less people.



All nonresidents entering the County shall:

- 1. Observe a fourteen (14) day self–quarantine or for the duration of their visit if it is for less than fourteen (14) days.
- 2. Bring all of their own supplies to include all groceries and provisions needed to sustain their fourteen (14) day quarantine.
- 3. Following the expiration of their fourteen (14) day quarantine, shall wear their PPE in public, as provided above.

Graham County residents and visitors will continue to follow Governor Cooper's Executive Order 121 – STAY AT HOME order. This is especially important due to the lack of availability of medical treatment and resources in the County and because surrounding states and Counties have similar orders in place. In addition, Executive Orders of the Governor are enforceable until revoked by the Governor. For this reason, all individuals shall limit travel to essential travel only as outlined in the EO 121.

These actions are taken to preserve and protect the personal health and safety of the people within Graham County.